

Message Text

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EB/OCA/BR:IAWILLIAMSON

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R 182355Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

UNCLAS STATE 036666

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, TW

SUBJECT: ALLEGED ROC RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF THERMAL
PROTECTORS

REF: A. STATE 276811; B. TAIPEI 623

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOX HAD TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH MIRCRO DEVICES PRESIDENT MERRILL SUBSEQUENT TO RECEIPT REF B. MR. MERRILL FORCEFULLY REITERATED REQUEST HE HAD MADE TO SECRETARY DENT FOR USG HELP IN GETTING GROC TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR HIS COMPANY'S PRODUCT TO BE BROUGHT INTO TAIWAN FOR USE IN EXPORT PRODUCTION WITHOUT DISTRIBUTOR HAVING TO PAY DUTIES. CHARACTERIZING GROC OFFICIALS AS TOTALLY UNCOOPERATIVE, MR. MERRILL REQUESTED THAT THE AMBASSADOR BE BROUGHT INTO THE PICTURE. HE SAID HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY GROC WOULD NOT ALLOW DISTRIBUTOR TO BRING GOODS INTO BONDED AREAS IN TAIPEI AND KAOHSIUNG WITHOUT PAYMENT OF DUTIES. MR. FOX INDICATED THAT GROC OFFICIALS CAN BE EXPECTED TO TAKE A PRAGMATIC APPROACH IN SUCH MATTERS, AND MIGHT BE BROUGHT TO REALIZE THAT LIBERALIZATION OF RESTRICTIONS IN QUESTION COULD BE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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TAIWAN'S OWN INTEREST.

2. REF B REPORTED THAT COMPANY'S TAIWAN AGENT, WHILE EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES FOR BONDED WAREHOUSE ARRANGEMENTS, WAS STILL IN FAVOR OF IMPORTING COMPANY'S PRODUCTS FROM

JAPAN OR HONG KONG. MR. MERRILL REEMPHASIZED HIS WISH TO BE ABLE TO SHIP HIS PRODUCT DIRECTLY FROM U.S. TO DISTRIBUTOR IN CARE OF A BONDED FACILITY IN TAIWAN WITHOUT DISTRIBUTOR HAVING TO PAY DUTY. HE CONFIRMED VISIT TO TAIPEI MENTIONED REF B OF COMPANY EXECUTIVES ROBERT WOEHRMEYER AND CARL GIGANDET.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO (A) PROVIDE ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO MICRO DEVICES EXECUTIVES DURING THEIR VISIT AND (B) REPORT ANY RESULTS TO DATE IN EMBASSY'S PURSUIT OF THIS MATTER WITH GROG OFFICIALS ALONG LINES OF LAST THREE PARAGRAPHS REF A. MAW

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Event:
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